

Application No.: 10/058,683

Docket No.: JCLA8057

**REMARKS****Present Status of the Application**

Applicant appreciates that the Office Action has allowed claim 1-4.

The Office Action has renumbered claims 13 (2<sup>nd</sup>) -18 into claims 5-19. The Office action rejects claim 5-19 under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph. Applicant has amended claims to overcome rejection under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph. In addition, original claims 13 (2<sup>nd</sup>) -18 have been canceled and rewritten into claims 19-24. Claim 24 with respect to original claim 19 has been amended also. After entry of foregoing amendments, claims 1-13 and 19-24 remain pending in the present application, and reconsideration of those claims is respectfully requested.

**Discussion of Office Action Rejections**

Applicant has amended claims to overcome the rejections under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph.

Particularly with respect to the "counter" in claims 6 and 13, the counter by itself can have a count depending on the operation clock. The counter counts a count, which can be understood to count the time.

With respect to claim 11 or claim 12, the switching device can be switched for selecting a control signal and then output the control signal.

It is believed that amended claims 5-13 and 19-24 have overcome the rejections under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, and should be allowed.

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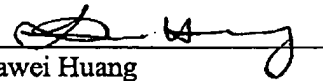
**CONCLUSION**

For at least the foregoing reasons, it is believed that all the pending claims 1-13 and 19-24 of the invention patentably define over the prior art and are in proper condition for allowance. If the Examiner believes that a telephone conference would expedite the examination of the above-identified patent application, the Examiner is invited to call the undersigned.

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Respectfully submitted,  
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